the part of the SHO concerned to take proper interest in the investigation of the case. The matter has been taken up for initiating suitable disciplinary proceedings against him.

**National Debate on Conversions**

854. SHRI C.O. POULOSE:
SHRI SITARAM KESRI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has given a call for a national debate on the issue of conversions;

(b) whether Government have crystallized their own view in this subject;

(c) whether Government intend to bring out a white paper on this subject which would help in a proper debate on the subject, in all its legitimate aspects, without allowing any section or sections of the people to hijack the debate to turn into a propaganda weapon; and

(d) if not, the reasons for making the suggestion of this nature?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (d) The Prime Minister agreed with the suggestion of Sarvodaya leaders in Dangs (Gujarat) that there should be a national debate on the issue of conversions. The basic idea is that this would facilitate an inter-faith dialogue with a view to clarifying positions and clearing misunderstanding. The question of Government formulating its own views and making suggestions on the matter does not arise.

**Auto Thefts in Delhi**

855. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of auto theft are increasing in the capital day by day;

(b) if so, the number of such cases brought to the notice of the Delhi Police during the last one year, month-wise:

(c) in how many cases the Delhi Police succeeded in apprehending the culprits and recovered stolen vehicles;

(d) whether efforts of the Delhi Police to nab the culprits remain ineffective; and

(e) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The number of cases of auto theft reported in the National Capital Territory of Delhi during the year, 1998, month-wise, was as under:

| Month | Number of cases reported |
|---|---|
| January | 612 |
| February | 606 |
| March | 664 |
| April | 607 |
| May | 686 |
| June | 815 |
| July | 842 |
| August | 793 |
| September | 733 |
| October | 739 |
| November | 632 |
| December | 828 |

(c) to (e) The requisite information is given as under:

| | 1998 |
|---|---|
| Number of cases solved | 1118 |
| Number of persons arrested | 1661 |
| Number of vehicles recovered | 2450 |

**शासकीय गुप्त बात अधिनियम में संशोधन**

856. **श्री कपिल सिब्बल:**
**श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया:**

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राष्ट्रीय जागृति संस्थान द्वारा गत दिसम्बर, 1998 माह में सरकार को अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ शासकीय गुप्त बात अधिनियम में संशोधन करने के अनुरोध के साथ एक ज्ञापन प्रस्तुत किया था;